



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

CN #10-11
USDA SP # 04-2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sponsors of the National School Lunch Program

FROM: Mary Szafranski, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Arizona Department of Education, Health and Nutrition Services

Lynn Ladd, Director
School Health and Nutrition Programs

DATE: November 5, 2010

SUBJECT: After School Snack and Expanded Learning Time Programs

Original Signed

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued guidance pertaining to the Afterschool Snack Program (ASCS). This program is currently administered at schools offering an educational or enrichment program for the purposes of care and supervision of children after school hours. At this time, the USDA guidance indicates schools that are not offering an afterschool educational or enrichment program but do have expanded learning time, may also be eligible to receive reimbursement for snacks served to enrolled children. Schools that have “expanded learning time” are schools that have added significantly more school time for academic and enrichment opportunity to improve student achievement. Schools that operate more hours a day than the traditional school day may be eligible for ASCS reimbursement if the school meets the following guideline:

- The school operates a school day that is **at least one hour** longer than the minimum number of school day hours required for the comparable grade levels by the local educational agency (LEA) in which the school is located.

To determine if your LEA has an eligible *expanded learning program*, first determine the minimum number of *school day hours* by:

- Single-School LEA: using the average length of the school day of surrounding LEAs; or
- Multi-School LEA: using the average length of the school day for your district.

The adaptation to include *expanded learning time* schools does not change the requirements for determining a LEA’s eligibility for the traditional ASCS. Traditional afterschool care programs must continue to be for the purpose of providing education or enrichment as stated in the Child Nutrition Program Guidance Manual and memo CN# 33-06. All LEA’s who wish to operate ASCS during expanded learning time programs need to provide an explanation of their program in Section 10 of the CNP Web Site Application.

Please contact your school health and nutrition specialist if you have any questions.

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Q&As: Eligibility of Expanded Learning Time Programs for Afterschool Snack Service in the NSLP and CACFP

1. Are districts that have moved to a four-day week eligible if their hours are over the average of a five day a week school?

The district may be eligible. As stated in the memo, “In LEAs in which all schools operate an expanded learning time program, or in single-school LEAs, the State’s average length of the school day or the average length of the school day of surrounding LEAs may be used to determine the standard minimum number of school day hours.” So, if a district’s change to a four day school week increases the school day at least one hour longer then the State’s average school day or the school day of surrounding LEAs, the district is eligible for afterschool snacks.

2. Does the State need to establish (length of school day) averages differently for four day weeks versus five day weeks?

The State does not need to establish different length of school day averages for four and five day a week schools. Nor do we require the State to establish averages for schools.

3. Should the State establish separate (length of school day) averages for elementary and secondary schools?

In order for a school to be eligible it must “operate a school day that is at least one hour longer than the minimum number of school day hours required for the comparable grade levels by the local educational agency in which the school is located”. If the State has a minimum number of hours per day set for schools, the school day should be as compared to similar grade levels. Again, the State does not have to establish these and can use the hours from neighboring LEAs.

4. A State has begun reclaiming funds from a school/district that claimed snacks during an extended day program previously understood to be ineligible, but eligible under this new memo. Will this memo allow the State to disregard the reclaim?

Yes, the State may choose to disregard this claim. The State may also choose to continue with the claim because the policy has changed and the violation occurred under the previous policy.

5. Does this policy apply to RCCIs?

Yes. RCCIs that serve an afterschool snack may serve this snack during school hours provided they meet the requirements. If snack is served at multiple times, care must be taken to assure only one snack per child is reimbursed.

6. If a school extends their school day for two weeks before exams, are they eligible for a snack?

If the school is already participating in the afterschool snack program, they may move the snack to the school day if all the requirements are met. A school may not simply start the program before exams and then stop the program when exams are complete.

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